



FULFILLING THE PROMISE OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN ILLINOIS

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## MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERSHIP

The Vision 20/20 21st Century Learning Center was officially launched and is already receiving great reviews from educators, legislators and members of the media here in Illinois. The Daily Herald wrote an editorial supporting our efforts and referred to the new site as “a great opportunity.” It continued by adding, “Education, in its purest form, is meant to be the great equalizer. In that spirit, Vision 20/20’s Learning Center takes a good step toward breaking down barriers of income for students in the suburbs and throughout Illinois.”

The Illinois House and Senate both passed resolutions declaring “August 18, 2015 as The Vision 20/20 21st Century Learning Day in the State of Illinois” further stating “and applaud the architects of the Vision 20/20 plan to Invest in our children’s future, our state’s future, and our nation’s future.”

Vision 20/20 is hosting a statewide webinar on September 29 at 9:00 a.m. to reconvene the original architects of the policy brief and to bring all of those involved up to date on the plan for year two. The more we continue to add voices to our group, the more opportunity we will have to succeed in fulfilling the promise of public education to the 2.1 million children we serve.

In the coming months leading up to the Triple I conference, the leadership will be hosting regional meetings around the state. These meetings will allow us to talk about the successes in year one and gather input from participants on the needs of educators and the issues facing our students. We will also highlight the new iTunes site and encourage educators, students and families to utilize this free and exciting resource.

For the latest information regarding anything related to Vision 20/20 please visit our website at <http://illinoisvision2020.org> or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Brent Clark, Ph.D., IASA

Michael A. Jacoby, Ed.D., IASBO

Jason Leahy, IPA

Patricia Dal Santo, IARSS

Roger L. Eddy, IASB

Creg Williams, Ed.D., SCSDD

## WE’RE GROWING

Welcome Some of Our  
New School Districts!

Berkeley 87

Central School District 51

Gower 62

Pontiac 429

Woodland 5

### SUPPORTING DISTRICTS

514

### STUDENTS REPRESENTED

796,236

### PETITIONS SIGNED

773

## SIGN OUR PETITION!

Join the support for Vision 20/20  
and sign our petition!

[Click Here](#)

VISIT US AT [HTTP://ILLINOISVISION2020.ORG](http://ILLINOISVISION2020.ORG)



===== WELCOME TO THE 21ST CENTURY  
===== LEARNING CENTER ON ITUNES U =====

On August 18th, Vision 20/20 launched its 21st Century Learning Center to help transform Illinois teaching and learning by providing high-quality, digital course content on iTunes U for classroom teachers in the four core content areas of mathematics, science, social studies and English language.

The launch took place at High School District 214 in Arlington Heights, Illinois. State Superintendent Tony Smith joined the event in Springfield while Secretary of Education Dr. Beth Purvis attended at District 214.

The repository, available through iTunes U, is an open education collection of resources accessible to all and initially focuses on grades 9-12. Plans to expand the site for grades K-8 is in development. Learning resources including lectures, videos, books, and materials are available for nine high school courses such as Algebra I, Algebra II, Chemistry, Geometry, ELA 9-10, ELA 11-12, Economics, Biology, and Physics and additional courses will be added by early this fall.

Educators from 22 school districts across Illinois met earlier this year to help choose the digital content to meet the state's Illinois Learning Standards. The collection resources were then vetted by content leaders and curriculum specialists before added to the site.

*"These resources can help Illinois teachers create a collaborative environment to push education away from the sage-on-the-stage model of instruction to more student-focused learning communities. It's populated with resources that real Illinois teachers created and curated for use in real Illinois classrooms,"* **Jeffrey A. Leathem, an English Language Arts Course Lead from Palatine High School**

State Superintendent Tony Smith talked about the importance of educators working together during the launch in Springfield. "The Vision 20/20 21st Century Learning Center provides cutting edge support to teachers across Illinois as they engage 21st Century Learners. Technology continues to evolve and this allows educators to get updated, content they can use in their classrooms at no cost to their district," said State Superintendent of Education Tony Smith, Ph.D. "It's great see Illinois educators collaborating to make this type of resource a reality, available for everyone to benefit students," stated Smith.

Illinois mark's only the fifth state in the nation to launch an iTunes U site.

===== PHOTOS FROM LAUNCH =====



Secretary of Education Dr. Beth Purvis addresses the audience.



Michael A. Jacoby, Ed.D., Executive Director of the Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IAS-BO) discusses the importance of creating ways to engage our students to increase their desire to learn.



Pictured are Dr. Purvis, Patricia Dal Santo, Past President - Illinois Association of Regional Superintendents of Schools, Creg Williams, Ed.D., President - Superintendents' Commission for the Study of Demographics and Diversity and Jeffrey A. Leathem, an English Language Arts Course Lead from Palatine High School.

===== JOIN US =====

Please remind your local school districts that have not passed a resolution endorsing Vision 20/20 to do so and be a part of our growing network. The number of districts, supporters and more has grown significantly but we still have more work to do supporting public education in Illinois.